

the Provincial Reconstruction Team and Forward Operating Base in Farah, Afghanistan. He also served in numerous ashore billets including Executive Assistant to the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Assistant Deputy Director Middle East Directorate in the Joint Staff; Special Operations Support Team to the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and head of the professional development section in the Chief of Naval Operations staff. His military decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), Navy Commendation Medal (four awards), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Navy Achievement Medal (three awards), Combat Action Ribbon, and various campaign and unit awards. He is also a 2015 recipient of the FBI's Director's Award.

As a first on Guam, Admiral Nicholson led unclassified briefings to multiple local leadership stakeholders on threats facing the island and region, engaging local Mayors, Senators, and Administration officials with unparalleled transparency that has served to build awareness of, confidence in, and partnership with the objectives of the Department of Defense.

The need to defend the territory of Guam from potential military threats is not limited to military establishments under Admiral Nicholson's leadership. Recent efforts to secure missile defense systems for the territory are taking a 360-degree focus to protect the entirety of the island, civilian and military alike, reassuring front-line Americans that they are protected, and reinforcing our safety and suitability to our critical visitor industry.

The food security and supply chain resilience for the region is strengthened in his work with our office to explore the feasibility of leasing Department of Defense lands for cattle grazing operations, further serving to advance local economic growth and diversification in a community that currently relies on over 90 percent of imported products.

With the island in the midst of a housing crisis due to labor shortages, material costs, and the tyranny of distance relative to American job and resource markets, Admiral Nicholson takes a mindful and creative approach in encouraging greater housing inventory to mitigate the civilian housing market impact of substantial military personnel relocation, and the subsequent growth of military housing needs.

Admiral Nicholson regularly and openly engages to address Veteran, Gold Star Family, and military dependent needs for access to amenities located within military facilities, deftly navigating the complexities of a community seeking greater access to military support in balance with the needs of mission viability.

Poignantly, Admiral Nicholson continues to be an avid partner in addressing critical healthcare needs throughout the island and region, providing guidance and solutions as the territory navigates the largest investment in its history to establish a modern healthcare facility to meet modern day healthcare needs throughout Micronesia and beyond.

The service to the country in the work of Admiral Nicholson is nothing short of exemplary, not only in his ability to effectively lead and manage the military front lines of America in the Indo-Pacific, but to do so in a manner that reflects unprecedented mindfulness of the holistic value in building, maintaining, and reinforcing community confidence and support critical to mission success

Madam Speaker, the Department of Defense and the Department of the Navy are well served and represented by the command talent of Admiral Benjamin Nicholson who is a builder of allies, communities, and constituencies. I extend my gratitude to the Admiral for his invaluable service to our Nation, and I commend him for his commitment to community engagement, civilian well-being, and his mission as Commander of Joint Region Marianas.

HONORING THE MILITARY AND PUBLIC SERVICE OF BRENNA HOLDER

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2022

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant First Class (Retired) Brenna Holder for her over 31-year career to the Mississippi Army National Guard where she served as an Active Guard Reserve Soldier (AGR). She has also served in my office for nearly 4 years as a Congressional Staffer assisting nearly 3,000 of my constituents.

She comes from a long line of Patriots, most notably her maternal grandfather, Dominick Fenelli, a United States Marine Corps, World War II Purple Heart recipient. Like her grandfather, her service began when she was 18 years old.

She enlisted as a Private attending basic training at Fort Jackson, SC. She served with the Installation Support Unit at Camp Shelby as an Administrative Specialist. She was mobilized in 1990 for Operation Desert Storm in support of Camp Shelby. She moved to Washington, D.C. in 1991 and served in the Special Actions Branch at National Guard Bureau. She served as a National Guard Support Coordinator handling logistics and administrative support for the Operation Desert Storm Homecoming Parades in Washington, D.C., and New York City. In 1997, she earned her diploma as a Licensed Practical Nurse while serving in the 108th Combat Support Hospital at Fort Indiantown Gap, PA. In 2000, she was hired AGR to serve as the Medical Detachment 6 NCOIC at Camp Shelby. She was mobilized again in 2004 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in support of units mobilizing at Mobilization Center Shelby. She later served as the Human Resources Senior Noncommissioned Officer in the Personnel Section S1 at the 154th Regiment, Regional Training Institute. She was instrumental in her section receiving favorable results in multiple TRADOC inspections. She served a few years as the Mississippi National Guard NCO Association's Awards Chairperson. She received training as an Intelligence Analyst at Fort Bragg, NC, Emergency Medical Technician at Camp Shelby, and Army Instructor at the Regional Training Institute at Camp Shelby. Her military training culminated with her completion of the Master Leader Course. She was honorably promoted to Master Sergeant in the State of Mississippi upon her retirement.

She received many state and federal awards while in service. Most notably, the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medals, and Army Achievement Medals.

Brenna was also a former Miss Mississippi Petite and selected in the top ten at the Na-

tional level. She earned her Associates of Applied Science degree from Delaware County Community College graduating with high honors in Surgical Technology. She worked in the Operating Room at Wesley Medical Center before returning to Active Duty. She also studied Management Information Systems and Applied Technology at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Like many soldiers, she juggled it all while raising her family. She has two boys, and has been married to her husband, Josh, for over 22 years.

She has been a compassionate, dedicated, and loyal member of my team. I am honored to recognize her for her outstanding service to my constituents of South Mississippi and her example as a true American Patriot.

RECOGNIZING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE TREATY OF HARTFORD

HON. JOSEPH SEMPOLINSKI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2022

Mr. SEMPOLINSKI. Madam Speaker, this week marks the anniversary of the Treaty of Hartford. Prior to 1786, the States of Massachusetts and New York had a territorial dispute regarding whether the territory of what is now Greater Western New York would be part of Massachusetts or New York.

On December 16, 1786, the Treaty of Hartford resolved this dispute. As part of the treaty, land in Greater Western New York became part of New York State. However, Massachusetts retained the right of preemption, that is, the right to negotiate any land purchase from the Iroquois Confederacy members or Haudenosaunee, especially the Seneca people who then resided and continue to reside on it to this day. Later in 1788, Massachusetts sold this right of preemption to Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham.

Early agreements such as the Treaty of Hartford and the still-binding Treaty of Canandaigua shaped the future of Greater Western New York. The beginning of this region's association with New York State started this week, in 1786. The region continues to be a vital and unique part of the northeastern United States and the Seneca Nation, with a unique economy, culture, and character.

RECOGNIZING GUNNAR MARSHALL WEST

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2022

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Madam Speaker, on behalf of a grateful nation and the Citizens of the Twenty-Fourth District of Texas, the 2022 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Gunnar Marshall West, Captain, United States Army, of Dallas, Texas for the honorable service he performed while in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Mr. West was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1973 and commissioned as an officer in 1978,